

**REMARKS**

The present Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2005, in the above-identified application. Enclosed herewith is a Petition requesting a two-month extension of time for resetting the deadline for responding to the Office Action from September 30, 2005, to and including November 30, 2005.

As an initial matter, Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 35-37 and 49-52 are allowable over the prior art of record. Applicants also note the Examiner's indication that claims 5-6, 10-12, 16-27, 29-32, 34, 39-40, 45 and 47 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the present Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 21, 33, 39-41 and 46, added new claims 53-54, and canceled claim 38. Support for the amendment of claims 1, 5, 21, 33, 39-41 and 46 is fully supported by the originally filed specification and adds no new matter. Support for new claims 53-54 is found in the specification at, *inter alia*, paragraphs 56-58 and 68-69.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7-9, 13-15, 33, 41-44, 46 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,517,651 to Azulay. Referring to FIGS. 1 and 5 thereof, Azulay discloses a method for finishing the edge of a fabric using a trim 40 having thermoplastic material embedded therein. Referring to FIG. 5, after the trim 40 has been placed over the edge of a fabric 26, the trim and the thermoplastic material embedded therein are heated by an ultrasonic device 68 for affixing the trim to the fabric.

As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to recite the step of "cutting a fabric to provide a cut edge" and "after cutting the fabric, disposing a bead of a curable polymer over at least a portion of the cut edge." Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1, as amended, is unanticipated by Azulay because the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests a method including the steps of "cutting a fabric to provide a cut edge having a plurality of fibers" and "after cutting the fabric, disposing a bead of a curable polymer over at least a portion of the cut edge." Claims 2-3, 7-9 and 13-15 are unanticipated, *inter alia*, by virtue of their dependence from claim 1.

Applicants assert that claim 33 is unanticipated by Azulay because the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests a garment including "a cut pattern piece having a cut edge" and "a bead of cured polymer material provided proximate to the cut edge of said cut pattern piece." The Azulay reference does not provide a bead of polymer on an edge, but instead provides a trim having thermoplastic material incorporated therein. For the above reasons, claim 33 is unanticipated by Azulay and is otherwise allowable.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 41, as amended, is unanticipated by Azulay because the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests a garment including "a bead of a polymer material provided on said stretchable fabric in proximate contact with the free ends of said fibers terminating at the cut edge of said cut pattern piece." As noted above, Azulay provides a trim over an edge of a cut pattern piece and not "a bead of a polymer material provided on said stretchable fabric in proximate contact with the free ends of said fibers terminating at the cut edge of said cut pattern piece." For these reasons, claim 41 is

unanticipated by Azulay and is otherwise allowable. Claims 42-44 are unanticipated, *inter alia*, by virtue of their dependence from claim 41.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 46, as amended, is unanticipated by Azulay because the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests "a cut pattern piece. . . having free ends that terminate at a cut edge of said cut pattern piece" and "a cured polymer material provided in contact with the free ends of said fibers at the cut edge of said cut pattern piece, wherein said cured polymer material provides a sleek finished edge to said cut pattern piece that is devoid of narrow elastic, trim, lace and a folded-over edge." Claim 48 is unanticipated, *inter alia*, by virtue of its dependence from claim 46, which is unanticipated for the reasons set forth above.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1-4, 13-15, 28, 33, 38 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,124,190 to Isoe et al. Referring to FIGS. 1-4 thereof, Isoe discloses a method of making pockets having resin-impregnated coatings for reinforcing the bottoms of the pockets. Referring to FIG. 1 thereof, Isoe discloses a cloth material 10 including resin-coated strips 11-13 provided over the bottoms of pocket sections 15-19. Referring to FIG. 2, after a pocket section 15 has been cut from the cloth material 10, the resin-coating 23 extends along a bottom edge of the pocket section 15. Referring to FIG. 3, the pocket section 15 is then folded over and opposing ends sewn together to provide a pocket 15 having an opening at an upper end and a resin-coating 32 provided at the bottom 23 of the pocket 15. Referring to FIG. 4, the pocket is then sewn to a garment 41.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1, as amended, is unanticipated by Isoe because the cited reference neither

discloses nor suggests a method including the steps of "cutting a fabric to provide a cut edge having a plurality of fibers" and "after cutting the fabric, disposing a bead of a curable polymer over at least a portion of the cut edge." Claims 2-4 and 13-15 are unanticipated, *inter alia*, by virtue of their dependence from claim 1.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 28 is unanticipated by Isoe because the reference neither discloses nor suggests a method including "cutting said spread of fabric to provide a plurality of cut pattern pieces" and "after the cutting step, disposing a curable polymer over the edges of said cut pattern pieces." Clearly, Isoe provides the resin-coated strips over the fabric before the fabric is cut and not "after the cutting step" as required by claim 28.

Applicants assert that claim 33 is unanticipated by Isoe because the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests a garment including "a cut pattern piece having a cut edge" and "a bead of cured polymer material provided proximate to the cut edge of said cut pattern piece." The Isoe reference provides the resin before the fabric is cut, and not after the fabric has been cut as required by claim 33. For the above reasons, claim 33 is unanticipated by Isoe and is otherwise allowable.

Claim 38 has been canceled, thereby rendering moot the rejection under Isoe.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 46, as amended, is unanticipated because Isoe neither discloses nor suggests "a cut pattern piece. . . having free ends that terminate at a cut edge of said cut pattern piece" and "a cured polymer material provided in contact with the free ends of said fibers at the cut edge of said cut pattern piece, wherein said cured polymer material provides a

sleek finished edge to said cut pattern piece that is devoid of narrow elastic, trim, lace and a folded-over edge."

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 21 and 39 contain allowable matter. In response, claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 1 therein, claim 21 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 1 therein, and claim 39 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 38 therein. As such, applicants respectfully assert that claims 5, 21 and 39 are allowable.

Applicants respectfully assert that the remaining claims in the application have either been allowed, or are allowable by virtue of their dependence from the claims discussed above.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested Amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Application No.: 10/826,195

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Respectfully submitted,

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